

City of Oxford.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S
REPORT

FOR

1900.

Oxford :

PRINTED BY JAMES PARKER AND CO., CROWN YARD.

1901.

In the Census Returns for 1891, the population of the Oxford district was enumerated as follows :—

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|--------|
| Headington, part of | . | . | 231 |
| Cowley | „ | . | 8,516 |
| Iffley | „ | . | 152 |
| St. Clement | . | . | 3,302 |
| St. John | . | . | 91 |
| St. Giles | . | . | 10,548 |
| St. Peter-in-the-East | . | . | 497 |
| Holywell | . | . | 709 |
| St. Mary-the-Virgin | . | . | 224 |
| All Saints | . | . | 319 |
| St. Martin | . | . | 314 |
| St. Aldate | . | . | 3,080 |
| St. Ebbe | . | . | 4,964 |
| St. Thomas | . | . | 8,434 |
| St. Peter-le-Bailey | . | . | 695 |
| St. Michael | . | . | 592 |
| St. Mary Magdalene | . | . | 1,733 |
| Colleges and Halls | . | . | 252 |
| Wolvercote, part of | . | . | 5 |
| Hincksey | . | . | 1,084 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| | | | 45,742 |

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OXFORD CITY COUNCIL.



GENTLEMEN,

Owing to the temporary absence of Mr. Winkfield, I have the honour to call your attention to a report of the Sanitary condition of the district during the year 1900.

I. For the purposes of this Report the population of Oxford is estimated at 55,000

II. The total number of Births registered during the year was 1,161, viz., 567 males and 594 females, giving a Birth-rate for the year of 21·1 per 1,000. The Birth-rate in England and Wales for the same period was 28·9 per 1,000.

III. The total number of Deaths belonging to the District registered during the year was 717, giving a Death-rate of 13·0 per 1,000. The Death-rate for England and Wales for the same period was 18·3 per 1,000.

IV. The natural increase of population, as reckoned by excess of Births over Deaths, was 444.

V. 322—298—290 and 251 Births, and 264—176—134 and 143 Deaths were registered in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarters respectively.

VI. The accompanying Table compares the Birth-rate, Death-rate, &c., with the returns of the previous years:—

| Year. | Popula- tion. | Birth- rate. | Death- rate. | Death-rate from the principal Zymotic Diseases. | Mean Temp. of the Air. | Rain- fall in inches. |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1891 | 47,500 | 25·8 | 16·2 | 1·09 | 47·6 | 28·46 |
| 1892 | 48,300 | 25·7 | 17·7 | 1·53 | 48·1 | 20·70 |
| 1893 | 49,200 | 26·0 | 14·5 | 1·60 | 50·6 | 18·59 |
| 1894 | 50,200 | 22·7 | 12·5 | 1·05 | 49·2 | 30·09 |
| 1895 | 51 200 | 23·4 | 14·4 | 1·23 | 46·0 | 21·88 |
| 1896 | 52,200 | 22·9 | 14·1 | 2·00 | 49·7 | 24·98 |
| 1897 | 53,200 | 21·7 | 13·3 | 1·10 | 49·7 | 27·18 |
| 1898 | 54,000 | 21·4 | 12·4 | ·61 | 51·3 | 18·85 |
| 1899 | 54,500 | 20·0 | 14·4 | 1·32 | 50·5 | 21·93 |
| 1900 | 55,000 | 21·1 | 13·0 | ·69 | 50·1 | 24·57 |
| Average of 10 Years. | 51,530 | 23·2 | 14·2 | 1·22 | 49·3 | 22·63 |

VII. At the end of this Report will be found a Table shewing the various causes of Death at different ages.

The number of Deaths classed under various headings is given below :—

| | | | | Total Deaths. | Death Rate. |
|-------|-------|----------------|----------|---------------|-------------|
| CLASS | I. | Specific | Diseases | 159 | 2·89 |
| „ | II. | Parasitic | „ | 0 | 0·00 |
| „ | III. | Dietetic | „ | 7 | 0·13 |
| „ | IV. | Constitutional | „ | 53 | 0·96 |
| „ | V. | Developmental | „ | 78 | 1·42 |
| „ | VI. | Local | „ | 368 | 6·69 |
| „ | VII. | Violence | - - | 22 | 0·40 |
| „ | VIII. | Ill-defined | - - | 30 | 0·54 |
| Total | | | | 717 | 13·03 |

Deaths of persons of 60 years of age and over number 294, or 410 per 1,000 Deaths, while those of infants under one year number 135, or 188 per 1,000 Deaths, and 116 per 1,000 Births, a very satisfactory figure.

| Year. | Deaths of Children under 1 year ; per-centage of Total Deaths. | Per-centage of Deaths of Children under 1 year to Registered Births. | Deaths of Children under 5 years ; per-centage of Total Deaths. |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| 1891 | 21·6 | 14·4 | 31·4 |
| 1892 | 21·2 | 15·5 | 31·4 |
| 1893 | 22·2 | 13·2 | 37·3 |
| 1894 | 18·0 | 10·5 | 28·1 |
| 1895 | 21·2 | 13·6 | 29·7 |
| 1896 | 22·1 | 14·7 | 35·3 |
| 1897 | 21·3 | 13·7 | 33·1 |
| 1898 | 21·3 | 12·4 | 26·8 |
| 1899 | 20·0 | 14·4 | 28·5 |
| 1900 | 18·8 | 11·6 | 16·5 |
| Average of 10 years. | 20·8 | 12·4 | 29·8 |

The Registrar-General gives the rates of infant mortality for 1900, measured by the proportion of Deaths under one year to Births registered, as being equal to 15·4 per 100 for England and Wales, and 16·6 for the sixty-seven towns among which Oxford is classed.

VIII. *Deaths in Public Institutions.*

Deaths of non-residents dying in the following institutions situated in Oxford, viz., Radcliffe Infirmary, St. John's Hospital for Incurables, and the Warneford Asylum, are excluded, while those of residents occurring in Headington Workhouse and Littlemore Asylum are included.

The number of Deaths belonging to Oxford which occurred in Public Institutions are given below.

| | 1st Quarter | 2nd Quarter. | 3rd Quarter. | 4th Quarter. | Total. |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| Radcliffe Infirmary - | 17 | 13 | 8 | 15 | 53 |
| St. John's Hospital - | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| City Hospital - | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | 3 |
| Warneford Asylum - | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Littlemore Asylum - | 5 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 20 |
| Oxford Workhouse - | 16 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 31 |
| Headington Workhouse | 2 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 14 |
| Total | 43 | 30 | 18 | 35 | 126 |

Deaths in Public Institutions constituted 17·5 % of the total number of deaths.

IX. *Infectious Diseases.*

In the Tables following will be found:—

Table I. Notifications made in the District since the adoption of the Act.

Table II. Distribution of Notifications during 1900.

Table III. Distribution of Deaths from some of the more important specific diseases during 1900.

TABLE I.

| Disease. | 1891 | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 | 1895 | 1896 | 1897 | 1898 | 1899 | 1900 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Small Pox . | ... | 1 | 4 | ... | 4 | 24 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Scarlet Fever . | 102 | 64 | 261 | 309 | 196 | 125 | 47 | 28 | 40 | 39 |
| Diphtheria . | 9 | 87 | 104 | 66 | 80 | 46 | 19 | 30 | 91 | 131 |
| Typhoid Fever . | 18 | 15 | 19 | 18 | 15 | 24 | 30 | 32 | 11 | 24 |
| Erysipelas . | 35 | 32 | 62 | 38 | 40 | 23 | 32 | 47 | 28 | 36 |
| Puerperal Fever . | 1 | 5 | ... | 3 | ... | 4 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 5 |
| | 165 | 204 | 450 | 434 | 335 | 246 | 131 | 146 | 173 | 235 |

TABLE II.

| Parish. | Scarlet Fever. | Diph- theria. | Enteric Fever. | Erysi- pelas. | Puerperal Fever. | Total. |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------|
| All Saints . . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Binsey . . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Christ Church . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Cowley St. John . | 16 | 66 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 97 |
| Holywell . . | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| St. Aldate . . | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | ... | 9 |
| St. Clement . . | 5 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 16 |
| St. Ebbe . . | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 2 |
| St. Giles . . | 7 | *49 | †7 | 11 | 1 | 75 |
| St. John Baptist . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| St. Martin . . | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| St. Mary Magdalene | 2 | 3 | ... | 2 | ... | 7 |
| St. Mary-the-Virgin . | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| St. Michael . . | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| St. Peter-le-Bailey . | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| St. Peter-in-the-East . | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 |
| St. Thomas . . | 2 | 7 | 4 | 9 | ... | 22 |
| Total . | 39 | 131 | 24 | 36 | 5 | 235 |

* One case admitted to Radcliffe Infirmary from outside the district.

† Three cases ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

TABLE III.

| Parish. | Diphtheria. | Enteric Fever. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhoea. | Influenza. | Erysipelas. | Puerperal Fever. | Total. |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|------------|------------|-------------|---------------------|--------|
| All Saints . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Binsey . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Christ Church . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Cowley St. John | ... | ... | ... | 6 | ... | 6 | 1 | 1 | 14 |
| Holywell . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| St. Aldate . | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | 6 |
| St. Clement . | 1 | 1 | ... | 3 | 2 | 6 | ... | 1 | 14 |
| St. Ebbe . | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | ... | 7 |
| St. Giles . | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 11 | ... | ... | 21 |
| St. John Baptist | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| St. Martin . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| St. Mary Magd. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 |
| St. Mary Virgin | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| St. Michael . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| St. Peter-le-Bai- ley . | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 2 |
| St. Peter-in-the- East . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 |
| St. Thomas . | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 1 | 7 | 1 | ... | 12 |
| Littlemore Asylum . | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Total . | 2 | 4 | 2 | 17 | 13 | 36 | 3 | 3 | 80 |

During the year two schemes have been set on foot with a view to reducing the amount of infectious disease.

(i.) Bacteriological examination in suspected cases of diphtheria, enteric fever and pulmonary tuberculosis (consumption). With the aid of bacteriology it is often possible to make a positive diagnosis in the above named diseases when on clinical grounds alone such a diagnosis could, in some cases only, be made after considerable delay, and in others not at all. In addition to this, in cases of diphtheria, bacteriology alone can guide us in declaring a patient free from infection. During the earlier part of the year some work was done on these lines, and in August the Sanitary Authority determined to place the work on a firmer basis. The following letter was sent to all the medical men in Oxford:—

TOWN HALL, OXFORD,
Aug. 1900.

DEAR SIR,

I have made arrangements for bacteriological examination in suspected cases of diphtheria, enteric fever, and pulmonary tuberculosis occurring in the City of Oxford. The respective outfits can be obtained at the Sanitary Department, Town Hall, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on week-days, and the specimens should be returned to the Town Hall during those hours, or at other times to Dr. Ormerod, 8 Banbury Road.

In the case of diphtheria and enteric fever a reply will be sent off not later than the following morning.

It is most important that the printed form sent out with each outfit should be filled up.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
ALFRED WINKFIELD,
Med. Off. of Health.

The result has been satisfactory.

The number of specimens examined will be found in Section IX.

(ii.) Information of cases of infectious disease from the elementary schools.

The majority of people still have a wholesome dread of diphtheria and scarlet fever, and, if their suspicions are aroused, call in a doctor. Should the case prove to be one of the two, the Medical Officer is informed and can take precautions. Should, however, the child have measles or whooping cough the case is far otherwise;—they are regarded as part of the necessary troubles of childhood, and only too often no medical aid is called in. So far from trying to check the spread of the disease, the parents display a terrible ingenuity in disseminating the poison. The child is moved from room to room until the whole house is infected—it sleeps in the kitchen, the common living room, for warmth—it is taken round to the neighbours for diagnosis, or they come to see it. During convalescence it plays in the street or goes shopping, &c., with its mother for a treat. And yet during the past two years the loss of child-life from these two, so called, trifling complaints has been more than eleven times that from scarlet fever and diphtheria.

To combat this evil, a scheme, first introduced by Dr. Newsholme, has been adopted.

The teachers at the Elementary Schools report to the Medical Officer any supposed cases of infectious disease among their pupils. The Medical Officer visits the house and gives a certificate to the school for the absence of any children whom he considers should be kept away.

Theoretically, the advantages of such a scheme are great : —prompt information of measles, &c., will enable the Medical Officer not only to take precautionary measures, but also to ascertain whether the patient is receiving proper attention, and the school will obtain the grant on the average attendance for children kept away.

Practically, the difficulties are very great. A single case may not seem worth reporting, but any single case may be the starting-point of an epidemic. It will take long before the parents realize that measles and whooping cough are “dangerous infectious diseases,” and that exposing such children is an offence against the Public Health Act.

Such a scheme necessarily involves a large amount of work, especially at first, and at present only a few schools have been asked to co-operate. From some no reply has been received, but at others the scheme is getting into working order, and will, I believe, yield good results when the next epidemic occurs.

The Zymotic Death-rate.

The Death-rate from the seven chief Zymotic diseases, given in the table, is known as the Zymotic Death-rate.

It will be seen that the position of Oxford is exceedingly satisfactory compared with other towns.

ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE PER 1,000.

| | England & Wales. | 33 Towns. | 67 Towns. | Oxford. |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Small Pox - - | 0·00 | 0·00 | 0·00 | 0·000 |
| Scarlet Fever - - | 0·12 | 0·13 | 0·12 | 0·000 |
| Measles - - | 0·39 | 0·43 | 0·51 | 0·036 |
| Whooping Cough | 0·34 | 0·45 | 0·34 | 0·309 |
| Diphtheria - - | 0·29 | 0·35 | 0·29 | 0·036 |
| Fever - - | 0·17 | 0·20 | 0·19 | 0·072 |
| Diarrhœa - - | 0·69 | 0·94 | 0·81 | 0·236 |
| Total | 2·00 | 2·50 | 2·25 | 0·689 |

Small Pox. The town has been quite free of this disease.

Scarlet Fever. There were 39 notifications and no deaths. The cases were scattered over the town, and the majority were exceedingly mild.

Measles. As mentioned in last year's report, Measles occurs in cycles, and the hope there expressed has been fulfilled. In the early spring there was a small local outbreak with two deaths, against 38 last year.

Whooping Cough. 17 deaths occurred as against 9 in 1899. The parishes affected are shown in the table. It is a difficult disease to deal with, as the catarrhal stage, during which the disease is most infectious, often lasts 2 or 3 weeks before the typical "whoop" makes its appearance. The loss of life is practically limited to children under five years of age, but many of those who survive have received permanent injury. The great difficulty in dealing with the disease is the apathy of the public.

Diphtheria. There were during the year 131 notifications and 2 deaths, corresponding to a fatality of 1.53 per cent. The number of notifications is the highest since the adoption of the Notification Act in 1891, but the number of deaths in spite of the increase of population is equal to the lowest, viz., 2 in 1897, for the same period. During the 19 years preceding 1891, the present number was exceeded in every year except in 1884, 1888, and 1890, when 2, 1, and no deaths were registered respectively.

The average number of deaths per year was as follows :—

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1871-1875 | Average 16 | Maximum, 1875, 19 | Minimum, 1871, 12 |
| 1876-1880 | „ 9.4 | „ 1879, 13 | „ 1880, 7 |
| 1881-1885 | „ 4.2 | „ 1881, 1882, 6 | „ 1884, 2 |
| 1886-1890 | „ 2.8 | „ 1887, 1889, 5 | „ 1890, 0 |
| 1891-1895 | „ 18.8 | „ 1893, 32 | „ 1891, 4 |
| 1896-1900 | „ 3.4 | „ 1896, 1898, 5 | „ 1897, 1900, 2 |

The fatality, i.e. case mortality, since the adoption of the Act has been as follows :—

1891, 44.4. 92, 26.4. 93, 30.8. 94, 31.8. 95, 17.5.
96, 10.8. 97, 10.5. 98, 16.7. 99, 3.3. 1900, 1.5 per 100 cases.

The figure for 1891 must be disregarded, as the Notification Act was not in working order. Antitoxin was used first in 1895. The figures for the last two years are exceedingly striking, and the good results are due to the following causes.

The general character of the disease has been mild. A great deal of trouble has been taken in hunting up cases and removing them to hospital as early in the disease as possible. In this way many mild cases which would otherwise have been overlooked have been isolated, and the early treatment has saved many which, neglected, would probably have terminated fatally.

Although a mild case may convey the infection in its most virulent form, yet as a rule the character of the disease tends to become gradually more virulent. The virulence of an outbreak is affected by many factors beyond human control, but much may often be done by hunting up and isolating all mild cases and improving the sanitary conditions of the neighbourhood.

It will be seen from the table that, with the exception of a small number, the cases occurred in the parishes of St. Giles and Cowley St. John.

Cowley St. John is a large parish with a very large number of children. There was no special outbreak, but cases kept occurring at intervals throughout the year.

Of the 49 cases notified in the parish of St. Giles, 39 occurred in that portion corresponding with the district commonly known as Summertown.

The history of the disease in Summertown presents some points of interest.

In 1889 the district became part of the County Borough of Oxford. From that date to the adoption of the Notification Act in 1891, there were no deaths from this disease. The cases notified have been as follows:—2 cases in each of years 92, 93, and 96, with one death in 92. In 98, 11 cases and one death, 99, 43 cases and three deaths, and last year 39 cases and one death. In the four years, 92 to 95 (inclusive), there were in Oxford 90 deaths from diphtheria out of 337 notifications, of which one death and four notifications belonged to Summertown.

It was not until the autumn of 98 that the disease gained a hold in Summertown. In the autumn of 98 there were 11 cases reported and one death. The next year, 99, there was a small outbreak in July, followed by a smart outbreak at the end of October. Last year history repeated itself, a few sporadic cases in the early months, 5 cases close together in July, and another outbreak in November. The number of cases is large considering the population, but this is due largely to the vigorous way in which mild cases have been hunted up; a bacteriological examination being made in every case where there was any suspicion whatever. In all these outbreaks "school influence" bore a prominent part, as is

almost invariably the case in the absence of any common primary cause, such as an infected milk supply. "Diphtheria," in the words of Dr. C. Creighton, "is perhaps the most obscure and complex of all the infective diseases in its causes and favouring conditions."

Outbreaks of this character are wont to die down in a few seasons, and we may congratulate ourselves on the very small loss of life up to the present.

Fever. Under this heading we have only to deal with Enteric or Typhoid Fever. During the year there were 24 notifications, 3 of which were admitted to the Radcliffe Infirmary from outside the district. Of the 21 remaining cases 4 terminated fatally. Oxford has the advantage of a good water supply and system of drainage, neither is there any special common source of infection as shell-fish from polluted water.

Enteric fever, like other diseases, often assumes a very mild type and renders the diagnosis, at all times no easy matter, all but impossible without the aid of bacteriology. In young children the diagnosis is always a matter of great difficulty, and the true nature of the disease is frequently overlooked.

Even the small number of cases last year shows not only that the disease may easily be overlooked, but also that when overlooked it constitutes a very grave source of danger. Thus among the 21 cases, some of whom probably contracted the disease away from Oxford, we find the following:—

(i.) A girl who had been suffering with slight indisposition, but able to continue her work, was suddenly taken ill and died in two days from a perforated typhoid ulcer.

(ii.) A small child suffered from what was supposed to be pneumonia, and infected four persons. The true nature of the child's illness was conclusively proved by examination of the blood. The facts proved that the child was the source of infection.

(iii.) A young girl who helped nurse a case contracted the disease.

(iv.) A woman who took a friend into her house and nursed her before she was aware of the nature of the disease, subsequently developed it and died.

In both these cases the evidence was against a common source of infection.

The idea is too common that Typhoid fever can be safely nursed at home if ordinary precautions are taken. In the past few years we have learnt that the infection may be conveyed not only by the motions, but in a certain percentage of cases by the expectoration and urine. The urine, moreover, may remain infective when the patient is far advanced in convalescence.

A missed case, or a case nursed by any but the best trained nurses, may constitute a grave source of danger not only to those in immediate contact, but also to the public at large; and with a disease with such a high rate of fatality we cannot afford to run any unnecessary risk.

Diarrhœa. The total loss of life was only 13, a figure which compares favourably with other towns.

Other infectious diseases.

Influenza. During the early part of the year there were a large number of deaths registered under this heading, the great majority being over 60 years of age. Although the disease is highly infectious, practically no precautions are taken to prevent its spread.

Puerperal fever.

Out of 5 notifications there were 3 deaths. It is difficult to say what is meant by the term, and there are probably many mild cases which are not reported. It is therefore exceedingly difficult to pick up the connecting links in the chain of evidence and to adopt the vigorous measures which the disease calls for.

Tuberculosis.

The deaths from the various forms of tubercular disease are given in the table at end of the Report.

A branch of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption, &c., has been started in Oxford, and at the end of the present year it will be possible to form some idea as to the prevalence and distribution of the disease in Oxford, and the conditions under which the consumptive poor live. Many years of hard work will be needed before we can expect any marked reduction in the death-rate. The problem is a great one, but the object aimed at will improve the vital statistics of the town in many ways, besides the diminution of deaths from Tuberculosis.

X. Bacteriological Work.

The Sanitary Authority made arrangements for the examination of specimens in August, but a considerable amount of work, especially the examination of throats, had been done in the earlier part of the year.

During the year 495 examinations of cultivations from the throat were made ; 313 were from cases in the Hospital. The large number is accounted for by the fact, the diagnosis of diphtheria is bacteriologically confirmed in the majority of cases on admission, and no patient is allowed to leave the hospital until a negative result is obtained. In addition

to this, the throats of many of the Scarlet Fever cases are examined on admission to exclude the possibility of a double infection. Of the 182 examinations of patients not in hospital, the majority were made in cases where the diagnosis was doubtful, and the remainder in convalescent cases who were nursed at home.

The number of specimens of blood examined for enteric fever since August was 19, and of expectoration for consumption, 21.

XI. The Corporation Hospital.

In Hospital January 1st, 1900—24 cases.

„ „ December 31st, 1900—19 cases.

Admitted during the year 163 cases, viz., Scarlet Fever 35, Diphtheria 124, Erysipelas 3, and Measles 1.

Of these 3 cases of Diphtheria and 1 of Scarlet Fever were admitted from outside the district. All four cases recovered.

Of cases notified in the district, 121 out of 131 of Diphtheria, or 92·4 %, and 34 out of 39 of Scarlet Fever, or 87·2 %, were removed to hospital.

Two deaths from Diphtheria occurred in the hospital (one child died a few hours after admission, and the other had only just recovered from a bad attack of Whooping Cough), corresponding to a fatality of 1·6 %.

I regret to have to record the death of one of the Ward Women from apoplexy during the year. The woman, who had been in the service of the hospital upwards of five years, was taken ill on duty. She was placed in an empty ward, where she remained until her death, 36 hours later.

Days spent in hospital = 5,376, an average of 32 days per patient.

At one time, during the autumn, the resources of the hospital were somewhat strained, but the alterations now in hand will, I hope, remove this source of anxiety in the future.

The Matron wishes to thank many kind friends for very welcome presents of clothes, toys, books, cakes, &c., for the children during the past year.

XII. The Water supplied to the District from the City Waterworks has been satisfactory throughout the year. The following figures have been taken from the monthly Reports of the Public Analyst to shew the quality of the water at different seasons of the year. The figures indicate quantities as grains per gallon :—

| | March | May | Sept. | Dec. |
|--|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Total Dissolved Solid Matter - | 23·52 | 19·04 | 17·92 | 23·5 |
| Chlorine as Chlorides - | 1·2 | 1·1 | 1·2 | 1·3 |
| Ammonia, free and Saline - | ·001 | ·001 | ·002 | ·003 |
| „ Albuminoid - | ·006 | ·004 | ·006 | ·006 |
| Nitrogen as Nitrates - | ·140 | ·049 | ·021 | ·168 |
| „ Nitrites - | ·0 | ·0 | ·0 | ·0 |
| Oxygen required to Oxydise Organic Matter in 3 hours - | ·027 | ·022 | ·024 | ·030 |

XIII. The Inspector's Report gives an account of the work done in the removal of nuisances, disinfection, &c.

The Inspector of Nuisances has regularly inspected the Milk Shops and Dairies and the Slaughter Houses, and he has taken care that they have been kept in accordance with the Bye-laws. He has also inspected the Canal boats be-

longing to the District, and has reported upon their condition.

Under the Factory Acts, the Bakehouses in the District have been inspected, and such alteration as seemed necessary in the way of repairs, cleansing, and whitewashing, &c., has been ordered to be done.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. L. ORMEROD, M.D.,
D.P.H. (Oxon), M.R.C.P.

March, 1901.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE OF DEATHS, SHEWING THE CAUSES OF DEATH AT VARIOUS AGES,
AND IN THE SEVERAL QUARTERS OF THE YEAR.

| | Under 1 Year. | 1—5 | 5—15 | 15—25 | 25—35 | 35—45 | 45—55 | 55—60 | 60—75 | Over 75 | 1st Quarter | 2nd Quarter | 3rd Quarter | 4th Quarter | TOTAL. |
|---|------------------|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| Class I. SPECIFIC. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (i) Miasmatic. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Measles | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Diphtheria | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 2 |
| Whooping Cough | 9 | 7 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 4 | 2 | 18 | 9 | 33 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 17 |
| Influenza | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 | ... | ... | 36 |
| Typhoid | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 4 |
| (ii) Diarrhoeal. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diarrhoea | 9 | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | 8 | 4 | 13 |
| (iii) Malarial. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (iv) Zoogenous. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (v) Venereal. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Syphilis | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | ... | 4 |
| (vi) Septic. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | 3 |
| Septicæmia, &c. | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 3 |
| Puerperal Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| (vii) Other Infectious. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tabes Mesenterica | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Tubercular Meningitis | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 6 | ... | 16 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 10 |
| Phthisis | ... | 1 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 16 | 13 | 2 | ... | ... | 3 | 11 | 16 | 12 | 55 |
| Other Tubercular | 1 | ... | 2 | 3 | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| Class II. PARASITIC. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Class III. DIETETIC. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Want of breast milk, &c. | 6 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Alcoholism | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Class IV. CONSTITUTIONAL. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rheumatism | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 4 | ... | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Gout | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Rickets | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | ... | 2 |
| Diabetes | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | 10 | 5 | 15 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 14 | 4 |
| Cancer | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 39 |
| Anæmia | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Class V. DEVELOPMENTAL. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Premature Birth. | 18 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 10 | 4 | 2 | 18 |
| Debility at Birth | 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 2 | ... | 5 |
| Congenital Malformation | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | ... | 7 | 16 | 4 |
| Old Age | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 | 41 | 14 | 14 | 7 | 16 | 51 |
| Class VI. LOCAL. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (i) Nervous system. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Inflam. of brain or membranes | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 | ... | ... | 5 |
| Apoplexy, softening, &c. | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | 3 | 3 | 28 | 13 | 17 | 14 | 11 | 8 | 50 |
| Insanity | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 |
| Epilepsy | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 3 | 6 |
| Convulsions | 15 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 16 |
| Laryngismus Stridulus | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Paraplegia-dis. of cord | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 12 |
| Other diseases | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| (ii) Special senses. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ears | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 2 |
| (iii) Circulatory. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Disease of heart | ... | ... | 1 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 18 | 10 | 15 | 14 | 7 | 12 | 48 |
| Aneurism | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 12 |
| Embolism, &c. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| (iv) Respiratory. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bronchitis | 11 | 5 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 5 | 7 | 26 | 14 | 43 | 16 | 2 | 8 | 69 |
| Pneumonia | 11 | 14 | 1 | ... | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 19 | 16 | 8 | 6 | 49 |
| Other diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| (v) Digestive. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dentition | 4 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| Pharynx | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 2 |
| Stomach | 2 | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Enteritis | 4 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| Peritonitis | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Obstruct. of Intestine | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 | ... | 3 |
| Liver | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 3 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | 15 |
| Other diseases | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| (vi) Lymphatic. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lymphadenoma | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| (vii) Glandlike. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Addison's disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Bronchocele | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 |
| (viii) Urinary. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kidney | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 10 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 25 |
| Bladder and Prostate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | ... | 4 |
| (ix) Reproductive. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male & female organs | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ... | 1 | 3 |
| Parturition | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 |
| (x) Locomotive. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Caries and Necrosis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | ... |
| (xi) Integumentary. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Carbuncle | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Class VII. VIOLENCE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Accident or Negligence | 3 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 19 |
| Suicide | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 3 |
| Class VIII. UNDEFINED. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marasmus | 10 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 10 |
| Dropsy | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Debility-Atrophy, &c. | 9 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| Sudden death | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | 3 | ... | 4 |
| Other causes | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| TOTAL | 135 | 47 | 24 | 38 | 25 | 49 | 61 | 44 | 180 | 114 | 264 | 176 | 134 | 143 | 717 |

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1900.

During the year, for the abatement of nuisances of various kinds, 1,019 notices have been served, viz., 767 Inspector's warning notices, and 252 final notices (including 6 under the Housing of the Working Classes Act), issued by the Sanitary Committee after report from the Inspector.

Proceedings were taken against the owners, who failed to comply with their notices in 4 instances. Orders were made by the Justices as follows:—7 houses to be closed being unfit for human habitation, and the owners to pay costs of proceedings; 1 house to be made fit for human habitation within 2 months, and 2 houses to be cleansed, put in a proper state of repair, and whitewashed, and the yard repaved, the owner to pay costs of proceedings.

The notices issued were as follows:—

| Nature of Notices. | Notices from Inspector | Notices from Committee |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | No. of Houses affected. | |
| To cleanse, repair, and whitewash premises . | 200 | 108 |
| To cleanse and whitewash rooms | 27 | 14 |
| To put premises in a proper state of repair . . | 12 | 17 |
| To make premises fit for human habitation, or to discontinue their use as dwelling houses . | | 11 |
| To abate overcrowding | 18 | 6 |
| To repair and limewash washhouses | 40 | 19 |
| To repair and limewash closets | 63 | 26 |
| To examine drains and put them in a proper state of repair, and disconnect scullery sinks, &c. . | 2 | 2 |
| To clear drains | 92 | 6 |
| To examine and put drains in a proper state of repair, and fix gully traps to yard drains . | 43 | 7 |

| Nature of Notices. | Notices from Inspector | Notices from Committee |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | No. of Houses affected. | |
| To examine and put drains in a proper state of repair | 14 | 2 |
| To repave yards and passages | 24 | 27 |
| To clear closet drains | 176 | 19 |
| To caulk ventilating shafts | 1 | 3 |
| To fix new closet pans | 54 | 7 |
| To repair water fittings and supply closets with a sufficient flush of water | 152 | 38 |
| To provide cisterns and water supply to closets | 5 | 3 |
| To remove accumulations of manure | 18 | |
| To remove accumulations of house refuse | 14 | |
| To remove swine kept contrary to the Bye-laws | 9 | 4 |
| To fix closet pans and traps and ventilated drains (insanitary closets) | 3 | 2 |
| To repave sculleries | 2 | 2 |
| To repave closets | 1 | 2 |
| To drain and repave yards | 9 | 10 |
| To refix closet pans to traps | 5 | 1 |
| To empty and fill in cesspools and provide water closet accommodation | 1 | 9 |
| To provide water supply for drinking and domestic purposes | 13 | 4 |
| To ventilate drains | 1 | 8 |
| To cleanse and repair urinals | 4 | |
| To abate other nuisances | 30 | 17 |

Complaints.

122 Complaints of Nuisances have been received and attended to during the year. 11 were found on investigation to refer to premises on which no nuisance was found. In other cases the necessary Notices were served upon the persons liable, which were complied with.

Drain Testing.

During the year 7 House-drains have been tested, with the result that in 2 cases the drains were found to be defective. Notices were served upon the Owners requiring them to have the drains put in a sanitary condition, and were complied with.

Removal of House Refuse, Sweepings, &c.

12,474 loads of Household Refuse have been collected and removed to the tilts, each load being over two cubic yards.

8,730 Notices to Householders and Occupiers of Premises were distributed during the year, calling their attention to the regulations :—

That on the ringing of the bell (which precedes the cart), and not sooner, the refuse be brought out in boxes or other suitable receptacles, and deposited in the streets, and suggesting the consumption by fire of paper and other things.

| 1899. | Loads. | 1900. | Loads. | Increase. | Loads. |
|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|
| House Refuse | 11,905 | House Refuse | 12,474 | House Refuse | 569 |
| Sweepings | - 7,454 | Sweepings | - 8,520 | Sweepings | - 1,066 |

| Month. | Number of Loads Removed. | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| | House Refuse. | Sweepings or Mud. | Total. |
| January | 1,252 | 1,310 | 2,562 |
| February | 1,031 | 633* | 1,664 |
| March | 1,054 | 585 | 1,639 |
| April | 1,190 | 627 | 1,817 |
| May | 964 | 489 | 1,453 |
| June | 914 | 473 | 1,387 |
| July | 1,083 | 467 | 1,550 |
| August | 817 | 438 | 1,255 |
| September | 934 | 562 | 1,496 |
| October | 1,100 | 781 | 1,881 |
| November | 1,015 | 1,057 | 2,072 |
| December | 1,120 | 1,098 | 2,218 |
| Totals | 12,474 | 8,520 | 20,994 |

* This does not include snow.

Movable Dwellings.

During the year 184 Caravans (including those attending St. Giles', Gloucester Green, and St. Clement's Fairs) were inspected to ascertain their sanitary condition, and the existence, if any, of infectious disease. The Vans were found to be in a good condition generally as regards their cleanliness. No case of infectious disease was met with, all the occupants being apparently in good health.

Canal Boats Acts.

62 Inspections of Canal Boats were made during the year. On the whole the condition of the Boats was found to be satisfactory. There were 2 infringements of the Regulations, viz., absence of certificates. The Owners or Masters rectified these upon receiving notice.

1 Canal Boat was re-registered owing to change of Ownership. The total number of Boats now on Register is 40.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

At the early part of the year an abstract of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 1875 to 1899, was distributed for the information and guidance of tradesmen and the public generally.

The undermentioned Articles were purchased during the year for analysis, and forwarded to the Public Analyst, from whom certificates were received.

The following table shews the result of Analysis :—

| Article. | No. of Samples Analysed. | Result of Analysis. | | Remarks. |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---|
| | | Genuine. | Not Genuine. | |
| New Milk | 7 | 4 | 3 | 2 samples contained 7 per cent. of added water, 1 being also 17 per cent. deficient in fat, 1 sample was 40 per cent. deficient in fat. Proceedings taken against the retailers. Fines and Costs amounting to £3 6s. 6d. were imposed by the Justices. |
| Butter | 11 | 11 | | 6 of the samples contained boracic preservative. |
| Cream | 1 | 1 | | The sample contained a boracic preservative amounting to '58 per cent. of boracic acid. |
| Spirit of Sal Volatile | 4 | 3 | 1 | Little below standard strength of ammonia given in the British Pharmacopœia. |
| Seidlitz Powders | 3 | 3 | | |
| Gregory's Powders | 3 | 2 | 1 | Contained 33 per cent. of carbonate of magnesia and 37 per cent. of calcined magnesia. Gregory's Powders should contain 66 per cent. of calcined magnesia. Proceedings taken against the Retailer. Fine and Costs amounting to £1 1s. 6d. were imposed by the Justices. |
| Calcined Magnesia | 2 | 2 | | |
| Zinc Ointment | 3 | 3 | | |
| Glycerine | 3 | 3 | | |

| Article. | No. of Samples Analysed. | Result of Analysis. | | Remarks. |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---|
| | | Genuine. | Not Genuine. | |
| Phosphate of Soda | 1 | | 1 | Contained arsenic equal to '072 per cent. of arsenic oxide or 5 grains in one pound. Proceedings taken against the Retailer. Fine and Costs amounting to £1 1s. 6d. were imposed by the Justices. |
| Whiskey | 4 | 1 | 3 | The 3 samples were under strength, being 30° U.P., 30° U.P., and 27° U.P. respectively. Proceedings taken against the Retailers. Fines and Costs amounting to £6 11s. 6d. were imposed by the Justices. |
| Beer | 5 | 5 | | The samples were free from arsenic, and of satisfactory quality. |
| Totals | 47 | 38 | 9 | |

As regards the proceedings which were pending at the end of last year against the 3 vendors of Butter that the Public Analyst's Certificate stated contained an excessive amount of boracic preservative, the vendors were each fined 10s. and £1 0s. 6d. costs, including Analyst's fee.

Margarine Act.

One Shop Keeper was cautioned for exposing for sale Margarine not marked in accordance with the Act.

Unsound Food.

Frequent visits have been made, more especially on Saturday nights, to the Oxford Market, with a view to prevent the exposure of unsound fruit and vegetables for sale.

Several Shop Keepers were cautioned for exposing for sale unsound food. Several parcels of Fruit were ordered to be sorted. The vendors complied with the request, the unsound portion being destroyed.

The undermentioned have been destroyed by me, being unfit for the food of man :—

| | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|-----------------|
| Mackerel | - | - | - | 60 |
| Sprats | - | - | - | 1 box |
| Pig, carcase | - | - | | about 14 score. |

In the last case the carcase was destroyed under an order from a Justice. Proceedings were taken against the owner, and the case was dismissed.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders.

Under the above 4 persons have been registered during the year, and 6 have been withdrawn from the Register.

There are now 75 Cowkeepers, Dairymen, or Purveyors of Milk upon the Register.

During the past year their premises have been frequently inspected, and were found to be kept in a fair condition generally.

Slaughter-Houses.

The registered and licensed Slaughter-Houses within the City have been inspected frequently, and they have been kept in accordance with the Bye-laws.

Common Lodging Houses.

The registered Common Lodging Houses within the City have been inspected frequently, and at all hours, and both their general condition and management were found to be satisfactory.

One has been re-registered owing to change of Keeper. Four are at present registered, having accommodation for 81 Lodgers.

No case of infectious disease was reported from them.

Factory and Workshops Acts.

During the year visits have been made to the Factories and Workshops within the City.

The following defects have been found in the course of inspections :—

- 3 Bakehouses requiring cleansing and whitewashing.
- 2 Sanitary conveniences „ „
- 1 „ „ without proper ventilation.
- 2 Workrooms requiring cleansing or whitewashing.
- 1 Laundry floor not properly drained or paved.

Notices to remedy these defects have been complied with.

Infectious Diseases.

In cases where the Disease suggested defects the premises were examined, and where any such defects were found the necessary measures were taken to have the same remedied, and Notices were also issued in every case where the Medical Officer of Health certified that the whitewashing and cleansing of the premises would tend to prevent or check the spread of Infectious Diseases.

Disinfectants were also freely supplied in all cases where thought necessary.

Inspection and Disinfection of Premises, Rooms, &c.

1,260 Houses have been inspected, chiefly house to house, and when defects were found Notices were served on the owners or occupiers to remedy the same. But this number does not include the houses and premises visited on complaints, &c., received from every part of the City, or the re-inspection of premises to ascertain whether notices have been complied with.

The Yards, Courts, and Passages within the City have been frequently inspected, and the water-closets and drains disinfected several times during the summer months.

220 Rooms were disinfected during the year. The following Articles were removed, and disinfected by the Corporation's Steam Disinfecting Apparatus :—

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|-------|
| Beds and Mattresses | - | - | 311 |
| Pillows and Bolsters | - | - | 344 |
| Blankets | - | - | 302 |
| Carpets - | - | - | 81 |
| Articles of Clothing, &c. | - | - | 1,541 |
| Total | | | 2,579 |

Prevention of Consumption.

In 16 instances requests have been made for the disinfection of rooms, which have been carried out.

THOS. J. HULL,

January, 1901.

Sanitary Inspector.



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